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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application: Yasuhiko SHINJO et al.

Serial No: 09/504,964

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For: MAGNETIC HEAD DEVICE

GRP ART UNIT: 2652

Ex.: Tianjie CHEN

AMENDMENT AFTER
FINAL REJECTIONCLAIMS-CLEAN VERSION

1. (Twice Amended) A magnetic head device comprising:

a base member made of a non-magnetic material;

a thin-film magnetic head, which is in contact with the base member and is accommodated in a single non-magnetic layer, and which thin-film magnetic head comprises a lower yoke, a magnetoresistive element, an upper yoke, and electrode terminals;

b an auxiliary member made of a non-magnetic material which sandwiches the non-magnetic layer between the auxiliary member and the base member; and

a slider surface on which magnetic tape slides in one of a first direction along which the base member, the non-magnetic layer, and the auxiliary member are arranged, and a second direction which is inclined at a predetermined angle to the first direction, wherein a magnetic gap is exposed on the slider surface between the ends of the upper and lower yokes that are situated in parallel with each other on the slider surface.